

Claims

- [c1] A drum maintenance unit, comprising:
 - a casing;
 - an oiling roller housed within the casing;
 - a metering blade housed within the casing and spaced from the oiling roller; and
 - a shield disposed between the oiling roller and the metering blade.
- [c2] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield reduces electrostatic field build up when the drum maintenance unit is installed in a media device.
- [c3] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield comprises a physical barrier between the oiling roller and metering blade.
- [c4] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the oiling roller has a longitudinal length and the shield extends at least the longitudinal length of the oiling roller.
- [c5] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield is in contact with the oiling roller.

- [c6] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield is electrically grounded.
- [c7] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 7, wherein the shield is electrically grounded to a media device when the drum maintenance unit is installed in the media device.
- [c8] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield comprises a conductive material.
- [c9] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield partially encases the oiling roller.
- [c10] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein the shield generally has an L shape.
- [c11] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein a distal end of the shield is bent toward the oiling roller.
- [c12] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, further comprising a filter.
- [c13] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 12, wherein the shield comprises a filter portion that retains the filter.
- [c14] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 13,

wherein the casing comprises a reservoir that houses the filter and a lower portion of the shield.

- [c15] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, further comprising a release agent retained on the oiling roller.
- [c16] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 12, wherein tabs are provided on the shield to retain the filter.
- [c17] The drum maintenance unit according to claim 1, wherein an upper portion of the shield is in contact with the oiling roller.
- [c18] A method for reducing ink transfer to an oiling roller in a drum maintenance unit, comprising:
 - providing a shield between the oiling roller and a metering blade.
- [c19] The method for reducing ink transfer according to claim 18, further comprising electrically grounding the shield.
- [c20] The method for reducing ink transfer according to claim 18, further comprising contacting the oiling roller with the shield to reduce an electrostatic charge on the oiling roller.